

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

In response to the Final Office Action dated March 22, 2007, the Applicant offers the following submissions and amendments.

Amendments

Claim 4 has been amended to incorporate features distinguishing the present invention from the prior art. In particular, claim 4 now defines that the auxiliary member also provides a print platen to support the media when it is printed by the printhead. This feature is described in detail page 7, line 17 to page 8, line 3 and illustrated in Figures 4 and 5.

Accordingly, the amendments do not add any new matter.

35 U.S.C. §103 - Claims 2 to 4

Claims 2 and 4 stand rejected as obvious in light of US 6,142,602 to Tanaka in view of US 6,585,348 to Reed et al.

Neither Tanaka nor Reed teach or suggest an auxiliary member on a printer cartridge that provides multiple maintenance functions as well as a print platen for use when the printer is printing.

Claim 3 stands rejected as obvious in light of Tanaka and Reed in view of US 6,749,298 to Schalk et al. Schalk does not disclose an auxiliary member that is the print platen as well as a maintenance station.

The cited references do not teach all the elements of amended claim 4. It is a fundamental requirement of the cited references to teach all the claimed elements in order to support a §103 rejection. Tanaka, Reed and Schalk fail to meet this requirement.

In light of the above, the citations fail to render new claim 4 obvious, and it follows that dependent claims 2 and 3 are likewise novel and inventive.

It is respectfully submitted that the Examiner's rejections have been successfully traversed and the application is now in condition for allowance. Accordingly, favorable reconsideration is courteously solicited.

Very respectfully,

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